New Student Group Amplifies Spirit

Whether it's cheering on the Cardinals, pulling an all-nighter during exam week, or trudging up the many stairs to O'Boyle Hall, there are experiences that are remembered by Catholic University students throughout the generations. A new student organization hopes to promote those traditions and events that make CUA unique.

The Custos Utique Antiquitatis — or “keepers of tradition by any means” — was formed last fall out of the University Pride and Spirit Committee, which was established in summer 2012 by President John Garvey to generate excitement and school pride around the campus community and promote attendance at events.

In addition to Custos, the University Pride and Spirit Committee has started Spirit Fridays, encouraging students, faculty, and staff to wear apparel with the University’s athletic colors, red and black, on Fridays, and a Spirit Challenge that awards prizes for student or faculty attendance at campus events.

During Orientation, Custos sponsored Cardinal Camp complete with a “spirited” skit. Members of Custos, during Orientation, Custos sponsored Cardinal Camp complete with a “spirited” skit. Members of Custos.

During finals week last fall, the group hosted a “Club Leahy” dance party with snacks and energy drinks in the conference room of Leahy Hall, where many students stay up late to work in the computer lab. The students also set up a table with Gatorade and power bars to fuel students as they walked to Friday morning classes at places like O’Boyle Hall. “The main purpose of Custos is to get people excited and spirited about CUA,” said Amy Petrovich Kerr, associate dean of students and director of residence life. “A lot of our students are looking for that special experience they anticipate having when they go to college. This helps them to know what to expect so they feel connected to the whole community and can build on that connection over the years.”

Caitlin Rabbitt, a senior nursing major from Huntington Valley, Pa., said the purpose of Custos is to “exemplify school spirit.” “I think traditions are an added bonus to the college experience,” she said. “It is these traditions that future alumni will look back on their time at CUA and say, ‘Wow, I truly had an amazing college experience.’”

St. Thomas Aquinas Mass Celebrates Catholic Schools

Speaking before a crowd of nearly 1,000 at the Mass of St. Thomas Aquinas Jan. 28, Rev. Thomas Petri, O.P., S.T.D. 2010, vice president and academic dean of pontifical faculty for the Dominican House of Studies, urged students to remember that humility is a “most necessary” path to holiness.

“If our learning and study swells up our pride such that we feel no need in asking, we can be sure it has all been for naught and we’ll never truly be happy or truly joyful,” he said. “The more a person of learning excels, the more he should know of his insufficiency, his poverty before the great truths of the universe, the great truth of God.”

Father Petri was the homilist for this year’s Mass, which took place in the Great Upper Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. The celebrant was Very Rev. John A. Langke, O.P., president of pontifical faculty of the Dominican House of Studies.

For a number of years, the Mass has been cosponsored by Catholic University and the Dominican House of Studies on the feast of University patron saint Thomas Aquinas. Last year, the University invited the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) to become an additional cosponsor of the Mass and to take the occasion to celebrate National Catholic Schools Week. This year’s Mass was broadcast live on EWTN and included students from nearby Catholic elementary and high school, as well as Brother Robert Bimonte, the president of NCEA.

Students Join March for Life

Bundled in coats and scarves to protect against unusually frigid weather, more than 560 students gathered at Caldwell Hall on Jan. 22 to attend a morning rally before traveling to the National Mall for the 41st Annual March for Life. The march marks the 41st anniversary of the 1973 Supreme Court decision Roe v. Wade that legalized abortion in the U.S. President John Garvey mingled with students at the event. He told them the march is important for both “delivering a message that life is sacred” and demonstrating that “civil discourse is important.”

Before the march, the University provided overnight accommodations to teen marchers from out of town at the Raymond A. DuFour Athletic Center. Approximately 250 Catholic University students volunteered to help with hospitality, registering visitors, serving meals, chaperoning, and laying out sleeping bags. Students also led teams in the Rosary for Life and hosted Eucharistic adoration and opportunities for confession.
Monroe Street Market Takes Shape

Monroe Street Market — a $200 million development of apartments, townhouses, retail shops, and artist and community spaces — continues to transform the University’s former South Campus into a vibrant, mixed-use community.

Residents of the 152 apartments in the Brookland Works building began moving in last July, as did working artists occupying the building’s artist studio spaces along the Arts Walk. The Arts Walk houses 27 creative and unique art studios, including jewelry, sculptures, photography, and art. The other two residential buildings, Portland Flats and Cornerstone, are near completion.

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Understanding Europe Today

It’s a particularly cold day in February as students in a European Culture class begin their discussion of secularism. The topic today is a controversial one: laws that passed in 2010 banning face-covering veils in France. Many argue the laws are an affront to religious freedom, discriminating against Muslim women who wear the veils as an expression of faith.

Over the course of an hour and 15 minutes, students give their opinions on the matter. All the while, Anamaria Banu, clinical assistant professor of French in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, shows examples of French multiculturalism with movie clips, music, a guest speaker, and even a comic strip.

The debate is just one small part of Catholic University’s European Culture course, which this year explores multiculturalism and national identity in France, Germany, and Italy. The course comprises three modules, each exploring a different country. Already in Banu’s module, students have discussed both a French novel — Shantytown Kid — and a film — The Class.

European Culture is one of three gateway courses into the Certificate in European Studies, an interdisciplinary certificate program intended to give students a comprehensive understanding of European culture, history, and politics.

The program, which launched in the 2011–12 academic year, is designed as a complement for majors in the humanities or social sciences. Directed by Associate Professor Claudia Bornholdt, chair of the modern languages and literatures department, the program includes courses taught by faculty from her department and those of history, politics, and art.

As part of the program, students are required to take two gateway courses: European Culture and either European Politics or European History, as well as four electives from at least two departments. Students also must acquire proficiency in at least one of the modern languages of Europe other than English and immerse themselves in a European country through study abroad or an internship.

This February, the program hosted a Europe Day as part of the University’s International Week. The event featured a presentation from Karlfried Bergner, minister of communications and culture at the Embassy of Germany in Washington; information about internships and work opportunities; and mini-language lessons showing the linguistic diversity of Europe.

Bornholdt believes the certificate program gives students a holistic understanding of what’s happening in Europe today, including the complex political landscapes and shifting demographics. The end result is an education that pushes students to rethink their preconceived notions about Europe.

“A lot of them were surprised about what’s really happening in Europe at the moment,” Bornholdt said. “I had one student come back recently — he just studied in Germany for a semester — and he said he was so amazed at how international and multicultural Germany was because he had such a different idea of Germany and Europe before he left. So that’s what we’re trying to do, give the students a vision of a more contemporary Europe while at the same time educating them in the rich cultural tradition of the European countries.”

The program is also meant to boost students’ careers. Senior politics major Drake Starling is one of the 12 students currently enrolled in the certificate program. He has already studied abroad in Quebec and France and believes the program will give him a career boost into political life and international relations.

“If you’re applying for a position, whether it’s an internship or a job post at an embassy — let’s say it’s the French embassy or the German embassy — then you have a little bit of background into their politics, their culture, their languages,” he said.

“The certificate program appeals to a lot of students who think really practically about getting a job on Capitol Hill,” Bornholdt said. “This gives them an expertise and knowledge, politically and culturally, not just about one country, but about a whole region.” — K.B.
Ask the Experts

Caring for Your Family Photographs

• Keep them comfortable.
  Most people make the common mistake of storing photos in hot attics and damp basements. Heat and moisture are a couple of the most serious enemies of photographs. Heat can cause them to become brittle and crack, and moisture can lead to mold. Both will cause changes in color to your images. Nor do photographs appreciate radical fluctuations in temperature. Store them in the sort of stable environment that would be comfortable to you.

• If you want to display them, use duplicates.
  Another big enemy is light. If you want to display your photos, a radical change in color to your images. Nor do photographs appreciate brittle and crack, and moisture can lead to mold. Both will cause changes in color to your images. Nor do photographs appreciate drastic fluctuations in temperature. Store them in the sort of stable environment that would be comfortable to you.

• Don’t be overwhelmed when organizing them.
  Organizing your personal photo collection is completely subjective — there is no “right” or “wrong” way to arrange them. Before you begin, though, it is wise to have a plan of attack. Most people seem to prefer arranging photos chronologically, and then further sorting them by individual events such as vacations, holiday get-togethers, and birthdays.

• Treat the digital ones the way you would the physical ones.
  These days, physical print images seem to be becoming a thing of the past, as most of our photographs are born digitally. As for organization, treat the digital images in the same manner you would the physical ones. The only difference is to organize them more often. The simplicity of using a digital camera makes it very easy for the number of photos to add up very quickly. Setting up an organizational plan early will make it easier to file them more quickly. Also, it is important to consider the preservation of your digital images. A click of the wrong button could delete your memories. Transferring them to their permanent home on your computer as soon as possible rather than letting them live on your imaging device is always a good practice.

• Acid free is the way to be.
  If you choose to mount your photographs in an album, always use those constructed of archival grade, acid-free materials.

— Jane Stoeffler
Reference archivist, American Catholic History Research Center and University Archives

Kurt Martens, School of Canon Law

Kurt Martens is an associate professor in the School of Canon Law. He has published five books and more than 80 scholarly articles in the areas of religious liberty/church-state relations, papal elections, the Roman Curia, and structures of the Church. He is editor of The Jurist (CUA Press), the only scholarly peer-reviewed journal on canon law published in the United States. The Belgian professor came to CUA in 2005. In 2009 he was awarded the University Young Faculty Research Award. He is a consultant to the Committee on Canonical Affairs and Church Governance of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Q: How did you get into canon law?

A: I was a law student at Katholieke Universiteit in Leuven, Belgium. Because I was a practicing Catholic, I thought I would take a canon law course. It was so interesting to me that after I got my law degree, I went on to get my licentiate (J.C.L.) and doctorate (J.C.D.) in canon law. It was not something that I planned, it was grace.

Q: What brought you to Catholic University?

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Q: How do you balance the demands of being editor of The Jurist with your teaching and research?

A: I make time because the journal is also part of the service mission. We are providing guidance to canon lawyers in dioceses across the United States and internationally as well. Our subscriptions are on the rise. People are finding our content useful. We strive to have something from every field of canon law in each issue so that our readership gets varied content. — E.N.W.
**40 Years @ CUA**

**Paul Taylor and Jody Gatwood**
Associate Professors of Music

Paul Taylor came to the Benjamin E. Minge School of Music as a doctoral student in 1974, began teaching part-time in the 1980s, and in 1988 was hired as a full-time associate professor of music theory. He served as assistant dean from 1985 to 2002.

Joseph “Jody” Gatwood has been teaching violin at the music school since 1976.

Both received 2013 Faculty Awards for Teaching Excellence in November and will retire at the end of the academic year.

**On Coming to CUA**

Taylor: I was teaching in Norfolk, Va., and I needed to get a Ph.D. I wanted to relocate to D.C., not only for school, but also for professional opportunities as a performer.

Gatwood: I sensed an atmosphere of idealism and service, which I believe stems from the Catholic tradition. The faculty in the School of Music were passionately committed to the creation, study, and practice of great music.

**On Why They Stayed**

Taylor: Number one, I fell in love with the students. They’re good people as well as conscientious students. I’ve loved that nurturing nature. Our students are supportive of each other instead of being cutthroat and competitive. That goes for the faculty, too. They were my teachers first, but then became my colleagues and many of them now are my friends.

Gatwood: Every student is a unique challenge. Some are not motivated enough and I have to balance how to create motivation without killing their love of music. Some are super motivated and I have to figure out how to get out of their way! Both are equally challenging, and I’ve learned so much from all my students.

**Favorite Place on Campus**

Taylor: Whatever classroom I’m in. That’s what I love to do best.

Gatwood: Mary’s Garden between Ward Hall and the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. It’s a very beautiful and peaceful place.

**Changes Witnessed**

Taylor: Our student body was two-thirds graduate students and one-third undergraduates when I started, and that ratio has reversed. That’s changed the culture in this school a great deal. I think undergraduates make it a much livelier place. They hang out in the lobby and halls between classes. This is their home, and they make it more of a community. They are energetic and bring that energy to the school and the classroom.

Gatwood: One of the greatest changes in this school was the emergence of musical theatre in the 1980s. Now that is one of our most vital programs. I’m really proud that our students are successful. Our program is more rigorous in music literacy and theory than that of many schools. — M.M.H.

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**University Ranks High for Veterans**

The Catholic University of America was ranked 24th nationally by U.S. News & World Report in its inaugural listing of the “Best Colleges for Veterans.”

Schools were ranked based on their assistance to veterans in pursuing a college education under the Post-9/11 GI Bill. The rankings provide data and information on schools that offer federal benefits, including tuition and housing assistance, to veterans and active service members.

To qualify, schools had to be certified for the GI Bill and participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program and Service-members Opportunity Colleges (SOC) Consortium.

In total, U.S. News ranked 234 schools across the United States. In September, the University was named to the Military Friendly Schools list by Victory Media, a media entity for military personnel transitioning into civilian life. That list honored the top 20 percent of colleges, universities, and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace America’s military service members, veterans, and spouses as students and ensure their success on campus.

**Repurposing Old Tech into Tiles**

Old TVs and computer monitors can become a threat to the environment when disposed of improperly. The bulky screens are made with cathode ray tubes (CRTs) that include thick lead glass to block X-ray emissions. Since the recycling facilities for these materials are both rare and expensive, millions of pounds of CRT screens have been stock-piled around the country with nowhere to go.

Hoping to solve that problem is Ian Pegg, director and physics professor of the Vitreous State Laboratory at CUA. Together with VSL scientists Hao Gan and Malabika Chaudhuri, Pegg developed a method for repurposing CRT glass into ceramic floor tiles.

To make tiles, the CRT glass is crushed into a fine powder, mixed with other ingredients, pressed into molds, and baked for several hours. The resulting tile is very dense and durable, with low water absorption.

“It actually turns out that the glass is very useful in this tile-making process,” Pegg said. “Seventy percent of what you’re using is a waste material so you’re disposing of a waste, you’ve got raw materials for free essentially, and you’ve got lower energy costs because of the lower temperature and the quicker firing process.”

The technology is patent-pending and licensed to DP Electronic Recycling in Elkhorn, Wis., which hopes to begin manufacturing the tiles within the next few years. When that happens, CUA could receive royalties.

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**Philip Rivers to Address Graduates**

The University announced in February that Philip Rivers, Pro Bowl quarterback for the San Diego Chargers, will address graduates at the 125th Annual Commencement Ceremony on May 17.

Rivers has been the starting quarterback for the Chargers since 2006. He holds many team franchise records, has taken the Chargers to the playoffs five times, and has been honored with five Pro Bowl invitations. A devout Catholic and father of seven, Rivers finds time to attend Mass before every game. He and his wife, Tiffany, are active in charity work involving abandoned and orphaned children. Rivers will receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree at Commencement.

Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, archbishop of Manila, S.T.L. 1987, S.T.D. 1992, will be the principal celebrant and homilist at the Baccalaureate Mass. He will be honored at Commencement with an honorary Doctor of Theology degree.
Out of the Water

Members of the 1924-1925 swim team pose with their managers on the steps of Gibbons Hall. At that time, the pool was a short walk away in the University gymnasium, now the Edward M. Crough Center for Architectural Studies.

Perfect Score for MSBA Grads

Members of the Master of Science in Business Analysis (MSBA) Program Class of 2013 all landed jobs within three months of degree completion, the earliest such accomplishment for a program that has achieved 100 percent success placing students since its establishment in 2010. The MSBA is a one-year program that draws students with a variety of backgrounds.

“The vision for our school is to be truly person centered. In pursuit of that goal it is imperative for us to conduct research oriented to the common good and to focus on understanding how business and economics become more effective when they are more humane. That’s the enterprise in which these visiting scholars will engage during their time with us.”

Grant to Study Principled Entrepreneurship

The three visiting professors from academia will conduct research on principled entrepreneurship. They and the scholar-practitioner will have opportunities to teach in the school. One of the appointments — a research professorship — will be for three years; the other appointments for one year.

“This grant is a significant boost to our school and will greatly support our efforts to integrate virtue into our research and teaching,” said Andrew Abela, who was appointed dean shortly after the business and economics school was established in January 2013 (previously it had been a department and Abela was its chair). “The vision for our school is to be truly person centered. In pursuit of that goal it is imperative for us to conduct research oriented to the common good and to focus on understanding how business and economics become more effective when they are more humane. That’s the enterprise in which these visiting scholars will engage during their time with us.”

Business School Celebrates 1st Year

In 2013, Catholic University announced the establishment of a business school rooted in Catholic values. In January 2014, the School of Business and Economics celebrated its first birthday with a Mass at Caldwell Chapel followed by a party at the Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center.

“Grant to Study Principled Entrepreneurship

In the fall, the school received a commitment of $1 million from the Charles Koch Foundation and $500,000 from the Busch Family Foundation to support research into the role principled entrepreneurship can and should play in improving society’s well-being. The grant will enable the school to recruit and hire three visiting scholars from academia and one visiting scholar-practitioner from the business world.

Dr. Andrew Abela, dean of the School of Business and Economics, and students celebrate the first year of the School of Business and Economics.